

June 29



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LUNCHEON

JULY 7th, 1948 12:30 P. M.

HOTEL SHERRY NETHERLANDS HOTEL, 59TH ST. & FIFTH AVENUE, N.Y.C.

\$3.00 - Tip and Tax Included

GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER

PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA

THE HONORABLE ROMULO GALLEGOS

PRESIDENT GALLEGOS ARRIVES THIS WEEK IN THE UNITED STATES AS THE GUEST OF PRESIDENT TRUMAN. HE COMES TO NEW YORK NEXT TUESDAY AFTER PRESENTING A STATUE OF SIMON BOLIVAR TO THE CITY OF BOLIVAR, MISSOURI.

THIS LUNCHEON WILL CONSTITUTE HIS FIRST OFFICIAL SPEECH IN NEW YORK AND WILL GIVE THE PRESS A CHANCE TO ASK QUESTIONS FREELY ABOUT ANYTHING. VENEZUELA IS ONE OF THE FEW SOLVENT NATIONS OF THE WORLD WITH NO EXTERNAL DEBT, NO EXCHANGE RESTRICTIONS AND ENORMOUS REVENUES FROM ITS OIL FIELDS.

ACCOMPANYING THE PRESIDENT WILL BE DR. ANDRE ELOY BLANCO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, THE VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES - GONZALO CARNEVALI ** ALSO OTHER OFFICIALS FROM VENEZUELA ** AND GROVER WHELAN WHO WILL BRING THE PRESIDENT UP FROM CITY HALL WHERE HE WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE MAYOR AT 11 A. M. GALLEGOS IS A FAMOUS LATIN-AMERICAN AUTHOR AND HIS FOREIGN MINISTER IS A WELL KNOWN POET.

PRESIDENT GALLEGOS IS BEING BROUGHT TO THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB THROUGH THE LATIN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE, WHOSE CHAIRMAN IS HAL LEE, EDITOR OF THE PAN AMERICAN MAGAZINE.

SEND IN YOUR RESERVATION CARDS EARLY OR PHONE THE OFFICE

- THIS WILL BE THE LAST BIG LUNCHEON OF THE YEAR -

Last week the Republican Convention was like old home week for newsmen of press and radio. Some had not met since the war. The good stories floating back are mostly unprintable and kept for the club bar but one has it that the boys had a hard time working as they were frankly accosted by "ladies of the evening" at every step. One correspondent said that there were 500 of them (from all over the United States) thrown in the clink. Also the true story of the hotel situation is that the rooms were stripped bare of movable objects and that the lobbies of the hostelryes of the Quaker City were unadorned.

One of our members left in New York said that there were so many executives "covering" the convention that he had to send his expense accounts to Philly to be ok'd.

Bill Chaplin lost two pounds in the steam bath atmosphere of the convention but that is about all he could lost other guys lost from ten to twenty pounds each-- no kidding. No list is available as yet of the correspondents accredited but they outnumbered the delegates by far -- some reports had it two to one. Members watched the proceedings on the television set in the clubrooms with great interest.

Sweltering weather settling on New York town is chasing everybody out of the city. The old gag about "It isn't the heat, it's the humidity," is so true that it hurts.

Martin Sheridan ran into Richard Tregaskis recently in Shanghai. During their long walks every day, they were pestered by tittering Chinese who could not get over the fact that Dick is so tall. Marty is now winding up his trip to Alaska and the Orient. He will come back to the States from Pearl Harbor on the big flying boat MARS. Sheridan visited the island of Chichi Jima in the Bonins which was settled by Nathaniel Savory of Bradford, Mass. in 1832. It's a fantastic tale which Sheridan tape-recorded in an interview with one of Savory's grandsons.

Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., who has arrived in Rotterdam with his trailer for a trip through Europe for Jack Doorty, president of Affiliated Features, was met by Ambassador Baruch of Holland and Admiral Kirk of Belgium.

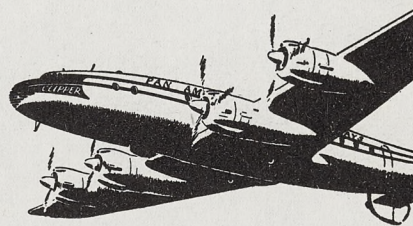
Al Almen of the Associated Press office in Caracas writes that OPC "Survivors of Bogota" might be interested to know that their Hotel Astor has come on hard times since their departure. Mine Hostess, La Senora, ruefully told him that neither the bar nor the dining room was a paying proposition since the takeoff of the norteamericanos and she has closed both. She is probably the only Bogotana who doesn't refer to the Bogota outbreak as the "UNFORTUNATE events of April."

Now that Almen is back in Venezuela after a swing around South America, the country will probably be "muy tranquilo" (there has been a minor revolution or a badly hatched conspiracy there the last four times he went away on trips.)

John Chipman Farrar of Farrar and Strauss is recuperating at home after a short stay in the hospital with a minor leg infection. Both are doing nicely.

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Phil Curran, formerly with the United Press in California and Australia, was glimpsed in New York recently on his way to Montreal where he will be director of the British United Press. Curran takes up his new duties on July 1st.

Patricia Ziemer, daughter of Gregor Ziemer, was married on June 16th to William Eadie of Ithaca, New York. Pat was co-author with her father of "Two Thousand and Ten Days of Hitler", published by Harpers in 1940.

Jack Hooley of Station WHAM in Rochester paid a visit to the office the other day. He had shaved off his mustache (the handle-bar variety) and has a 9.5 Hooper rating for his 5:45 show every night. Jack says that, looking at it from the point of a view of an out-of-town member, the club has progressed steadily and surely in the past months and years and that the services of the club to members make it of great value.

Sonia Tomara of the N.Y. Herald Tribune in Berlin writes that the press colony there is very much cut away from the world there and that it wears on you in the end like living on an island. She says that Drew Middleton of the N.Y. Times is there, also Kenneth Downes who works for the Military Government, Berlin sector. Joe Phillips of Newsweek, Demaree Bess of the Statepost and Charley Wertenbaker paid a visit to Berlin recently, according to Sonia, who says it is not easy to move these days in or out of Berlin, although she hopes to go to Italy this summer.

Hobart Douglas Skidmore who joined other club members to see the Louis-Walcott fight on our new GE television set made a present to the club of two bottles of scotch for which the House Committee is grateful.

The clubrooms overlooking Times Square are open from 9:30 in the morning until 10 P.M. at night. The House Committee has decided to keep the club open in the evening this summer, according to Marion Sanford, Chairman.

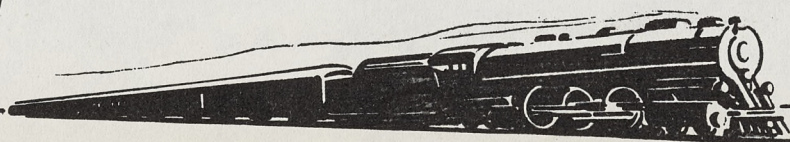
The Library Committee which met on June 29th plans to make the Club Library a real project this year, according to Bill Doerflinger, but looking around for space for new books in the clubrooms revealed that there is almost no bookshelf space left. What to do?

Fred Parker, back from Japan, will live on his farm in Kentucky a while. He and his wife are expected in New York for a visit soon.

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The following applications for membership in the OPC have been received. Please send your recommendations, complaints or suggestions to any member of the Admissions Committee or Craig Thompson, Chairman, in writing, within two weeks (before the next meeting of the Committee).

ACTIVE:

FRANK C. BETTS, correspondent in Great Britain for King Features and the International News Service. Has had this post from 1933 to present.

MAX DESFOR, Associated Press photographer in Delhi, India. Pacific Theatre of Operations 1945; Japan, Philippines, 1945; India, 1946; Java, 1947; India, 1947 to present.

THOMAS A. DOZIER, Time-Life enroute to London to serve on staff there. April-May 1948 in Colombia and Peru for Time; Press attache for U.S. Embassy in Lima from Nov. 1945 to April 1947 and from 1939 to 1941 on Foreign Desk of United Press in Washington.

MARGARET ANNE PARTON, N.Y. Herald Tribune, just back from India. Japan, May 1946 to February 1947; India, March 1947 to March 1948.

CHARLES D. ROSECRANS, JR., International News Photos, Tokyo, Japan. Tokyo for INP since 1945; Signal Corps War Photographer from Pearl Harbor in 1941 to 1945 covering Kwajalein, Eniwetok, Saipan, Guam, Philippines; Newspaper Signal Corps Photographer including photos for Yank, Stars and Stripes, etc.

PAUL WINKLER, Western European correspondent for King Features Syndicate and International News Service. Same assignment since 1928 with exception of years 1941-44. War correspondent accredited to U.S. Army in European theatre of operations from April 1945 to 1946.

GENE ZENIER, Cameraman-Director Warner Pathe News in Tokyo. Jan. 1942 to Sept. 1943 as Navy Combat cameraman attached to Souting Squadron VS-51; Nov. 1944 to March 1946 as Navy Combat Photo Officer, covering landing operations while in charge of one of Capt. Edward J. Steichen's Combat photo units, all in Pacific area. Dec. 1946 to Nov. 1947, free lance in Japan; Dec. 1947 to present with Warner Pathe.

BOOKS RECEIVED RECENTLY IN THE CLUB LIBRARY:

FOR WANT OF A NAIL, by Hawthorne Daniel from McGraw-Hill

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF AN EX-COLORED MAN, by James Weldon Johnson, from Pelican Books

WASHINGTON WITCH HUNT, by Bert Andrews, from Random House

VESPER IN VIENNA, by Bruce Marshall, from Houghton-Mifflin

THE IRON CURTAIN, by Igor Gouzenko, from E. P. Dutton

DUNKIRK, by A. A. Divine, D.S.M., from E. P. Dutton and Co.

CANADA'S WAR AT SEA, by Stephen Leacock, from Sidney Freifeld

CANADA, OUR DOMINION NEIGHBOR, by Merrill Denison, from Sidney Freifeld

ALSO VARIOUS PAMPHLETS ABOUT CANADA FROM FREIFELD.

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Peggy Hull Deuell has been a pioneer in both wars. In World War I, 1918 she succeeded in getting the first and only accredited pass ever granted a woman -- and in spite of the regulation against accrediting them. In World War II, she placated the Navy in the Pacific to such an extent that they were willing to accredit women. Peggy has never ceased (from that first accreditation) to remember that whatever she did reflected on every woman in the profession.

Despite the fact that many of our members were covering the Republican convention last week, almost eighty turned up for lunch to hear George Fielding Eliot. Egbert White, vice president presided. Glimpsed around were Charles Hodges, secretary of ARNA; Ernie Prinz, of International News Pictures, guest of Nick Parrino; Alex Small, Jack Hooley, Jean Jaffe of the Jewish Day; Joe Laitin of Reuters', etc.

George Fielding Eliot, columnist for the New York Post, just returned from a trip to Europe and the Middle East, said that, unfortunately the world is still ruled by force and that people today must fight for what they believe in. He commended the United Nation as an ideal but maintained that its goal of cooperation, right and justice had not yet been reached.

For example, Eliot pointed out that we were not able to accomplish any results of keeping the Russians out of Greece until we had reorganized the Greek Army and provided American officers to guide it. The French, too, have asked to be financed for 25 divisions as they are not satisfied with the promise of aid if an emergency arises.

In the present conflict in Palestine, Eliot said that the Hagannah had proved itself by the power of arms and that the Transjordan was the only Arab country to put on any organized fighting. Now King Abdullah can say to the other Arab states that he made the only worthwhile effort and can make a deal with the other Arab potentates when he likes.

The Turks have 60,000 men under arms today and are determined to resist, if attacked, according to this speaker. However, the American aid will take another year to reorganize the army on a modern basis. The Turkish soldier now earns forty cents a month. At the present time, Turkey could not resist an invasion.

Mr. Eliot thought that the war in Palestine would end soon and that Israel should present a united front under one command -- he approved of the Irgun being incorporated under the Hagannah organized command. However, he did not foresee a happy economic future for the new state.

Hester E. Hensell, Editor.

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